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Book

THE

NEW-ENGLAND FARRIER;

BEING A

COMPENDIUM OF FARRIERY.

IN FOUR PARTS.

WHEREIN MOST OF THE DISEASES, TO WHICH HORSES, NEAT CATTLE, SHEEP AND SWINE ARE SUBJECT, ARE TREATED OF; WITH MEDICAL AND SURGICAL OPERATIONS THEREON:

BEING THE RESULT OF MANY YEARS' EXPERIENCE.

INTENDED FOR THE USE OF

PRIVATE GENTLEMEN AND FARMERS.

THE SECOND EDITION.

By *PAUL JEWETT*,
OF ROWLEY.

SALEM:
PRINTED BY JOSHUA CUSHING.
SOLD BY HENRY CUSHING, PROVIDENCE,
BY CUSHING & APPLETON, SALEM, AND
BY CHARLES METCALF, BATH.
1807.

District of Massachusetts, viz.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the ninth day of July, in the thirty-second year of the independence of the United States of America, PAUL JEWETT, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as author, in the words following, to wit :—

"*The NEW-ENGLAND FARRIER; being a* COMPENDIUM *of* FARRIERY. *In four parts. Wherein most of the Diseases, to which Horses, Neat Cattle, Sheep and Swine are subject, are treated of; with medical and surgical operations thereon; being the result of many years' experience. Intended for the use of private gentlemen and farmers. The second edition. By Paul Jewett, of Rowley.*"

In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts and books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned;" also to an Act, entitled, "An Act, supplementary to an Act, entitled, An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the Authors and Proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned; and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving and etching historical and other prints."

WILLIAM S. SHAW,
Clerk of the District of Massachusetts.

INTRODUCTION.

THE subsequent treatise owes its rise to three principal causes.

I. The great opportunity I had, whilst young, of reading authors on Farriery, and thereby gaining an extensive theory.

II. The extensive practice I have had in this kind of business since; and the reasons which experience hath given me, to differ from most of the European theories.

III. The solicitations of my acquaintance.

In so small a work, I cannot be so particular in my prescriptions for cures as I am in my daily practice: The constitutions of beasts being different, some difference in the treatment is necessary, which must be directed by the judgment of those who are present. The remedies, in general, are such as are easily procured, safely applied, and happily successful.

I shall, in the first place, make some remarks on the choice of Seed Horses, and on the treatment of horses in general—on the management of Colts till three years old, and at first riding them—give directions for docking, nicking, &c.—and treat of the various maladies with which horses are affected. Secondly, I shall treat of the various diseases affecting Neat Cattle. Thirdly, of Sheep; and, Fourthly, of Swine.

THE

NEW-ENGLAND FARRIER.

PART I.

Of SEED HORSES, *and the* MANAGEMENT *of* COLTS.

SUCH seed horses should be chosen as are large and well proportioned, strait-limbed, moving in a right line, heedless of every thwarting object, of an even, persevering temper, with short, fine hair and lively countenance.

Colts, when they are foaled, require but little attention the first three or four months. When they are weaned, if by grass, they should be kept in a small enclosure, with a constant supply of water and tender herbage: if they are weaned by hay, provide yourself with a quantity of rowen, or second crop hay; which is a grateful fodder for their tender age, and easily masticated; while coarse hay would be neglected, and your colt starved.

Colts of the first and second year are frequently troubled with the lampers, being a fleshy excresence, or spongy substance, growing in the roof of the mouth, and hindering the colt from chewing. The best method of curing this inconvenience is, to apply a hot iron with a round head, till it is burnt so as to slough off, and in a few days it is well.

Give your colt a good pasture till he is three or four years old, then you must apply your rules of instruction to form the horse's manners; for (as the wise man says in another case) train him up in the way he should go, and he will not forget it all his days.

A horse is a tractable animal, and is easily trained to many useful employments, by gentleness and good humour; yet he remembers injuries, and has the recollection to endeavour to avoid what has once given him pain. A horse that stumbles (and 'tis a good horse that never stumbles) if he is frequently chastised for it, will, at the least mistep, exert himself to an uncommon degree, fearing the lash, and by that means often plunges himself and rider to the earth. This conduct must arise from the remembrance of his stripes on similar occasions.

If your horse espies an object of fear in his way, heighten not the sensation with a whip, or harsh words; for he will presently imagine them all connected, and double his flight. Gentlemen, who intend a horse for the carriage, should familiarize him to the harness in some coach or waggon, where he cannot get away, till he submits himself tamely to be checked and forwarded at pleasure.

DIRECTIONS *relative to* DOCKING.

THE curtailing of horses is both ornamental and useful; a long tail, if the roads are muddy, gathers much dirt, and impedes the horse's travelling. Many horses of worth make but little figure on account of their low carriage; the ele-

vation of the tail, therefore, is the object of inquiry. For this purpose, the horse should be cast on some easy spot, that you may act with caution; then place a block under the tail, and hold your dividing instrument obliquely, so as to cut the under sinews the shortest; then their antagonists, acting with superior force, will elevate the tail. Should the arteries bleed profusely, sear them with a hot iron, and anoint the sore every day with some emollient ointment, till it is well.

NICKING.

IF nicking is thought necessary, the horse must be cast, as for docking. The apparatus being ready (which should be a fleam, a small pair of pincers, an iron spatula, and a cup of warm spirits) then with your knife make an incision upon the cord of the tail which lies on each side of the bone, one inch and an half long, and four inches from the body; the cord appearing, take hold of it with your pincers, and run the spatula under it; then cut the cord at the upper part of the incision next the body, and do the same by the other cord: Then, at two inches from your former incision, towards the end of the tail, cut down upon the cords as before, and take away four inches of each cord; or, if it is thought necessary, the whole of the cord may be taken away in the same manner. Now apply your spirits, and bind up the sore with a linen bandage; unbind the horse, and put him into a very narrow stable; fix a pulley over his back; put a line through, and tie one end to the horse's tail, with a sufficient weight on the other end to keep the tail upright; wet it daily with spirits, and apply

some digestive, such as basilicon; and in ten or fifteen days you may expect a cure.

Of the MEANS *of preserving the* HEALTH *of* HORSES.

HEALTH is that state of an animal body, in which all its functions are performed with ease and agility; the food received affords due nourishment to the body; the fluids have a free and equable circulation; and the fibres, or nervous system, which is accounted the spring of sensation and motion, are not become rigid and inelastic, which would give rise to every species of inflammatory affection; nor flaccid, lax or weak, which would induce a decline, and soon put a period to its existence.

In order, therefore, to secure a horse in a state of health, and prevent a train of ills, we must have a special regard to him, with respect to food, exercise and stabling.

The intent of this treatise is, not to lose sight of the main object, while we are busied with unnecessary details: those who are fond of prolixity, may consult Clark's Farriery on the subject.

I shall now lay before my readers, the several sorts of fodder and grain, used for horses, with the choice of each.

The principal hay for horses, is herd-grass and clover; the provender, oats, rye, barley, corn and bran, potatoes, &c. Some farmers, indeed, can support their horses on meadow or salt hay; but I presume, unless grain is added to this fodder, such horses are unfit for daily and laborious exercise; which if required of them, ten to one

they fall victims to those diseases which horses poorly fed and hard worked are particularly subject to.

Herd-grass, if well made, is the best fodder: it is more nutritious according to its weight than clover. Horses however are extremely fond of clover, and it keeps the bowels loose; but if indulged their fill, and immediately put to exercise, it may be of bad consequence, and often bring on what is called the phthisic. Farmers frequently feed their horses through the winter on corn fodder; it is very good, if rightly managed.

A horse is an animal of a hot constitution, and, especially when fed on dry meat, is subject to costiveness: this should be guarded against by gentle laxatives. A mess of potatoes every day, or a mash of bran, or boiled rye, will generally keep the bowels loose, and secure your horse from those complaints, which counterfeit the bots, or another disorder which is called the dry belly-ache. Oats, the common provender for horses in our country, contain a latent spirit, which supports the beast under great fatigue, and encourages him in the most laborious employment; yet if a small portion of corn should be added to every feed of oats, they would probably be broken much finer, and consequently be more nutritious. Barley is also very grateful to horses, but much the best when ground. In feeding your horse, whether you serve up the hay in a manger or rack, be careful to give no more than your horse will eat with a good appetite; lest, being suffered to breathe upon, and spoil the sweetnes of his hay, you imagine him

sick, and either send him to the farrier, or take some method with him that will make him truly sick. Give your horse therefore often, and but little at a time; let his water also be given him when he craves: some horses are more thirsty than others, and, unless indulged with water, will refuse the choicest hay. There is likewise a great choice in water; those waters that readily mix with alkaline substances and common soap, are best suited to dilute the food, and promote the secretions of an animal body.

On EXERCISE.

A HORSE that hath been used to labour, or suffered to roam abroad, is an unsuitable subject for confinement, especially if his manner of living becomes more luxurious. Idleness brings on a redundancy of the fluids, and a congestion of that perspirable matter, thrown off by exercise. When this therefore is retained in the body, it will give rise to many general and local diseases. I have seen it verified in many instances of gentlemen's horses, who afford them leisure, and are not careful to apply that excellent substitute, friction, or currying.

But while I would guard against the permitting of horses to suffer through want of exercise, I would bespeak the compassion of their masters, while they demand their services. A horse cannot travel through heat and rain, over the sandy heath or rocky mountain, insensible as the chariot to which he is harnessed. The rider should make his stages as the difficulty of the way and strength of the animal indicates. His limbs should be rubbed with a brush, or woollen

cloth, to prevent their growing stiff, and swelling; he should not be permitted to drink till cool; and in dusty weather his hay should be sprinkled with water, and his grain soaked at all seasons of the year. But these remarks will more properly occur, when I shall give directions for travelling horses.

All I need say further in this place is, Consider what your beast is capable of performing, and the keeping you bestow on him; then require no more than reason exacts, and you may expect a lasting and faithful servant.

On STABLES.

THE stabling of horses in the country, requires but few directions, their stables in general being capacious enough for a free circulation of air, which is as necessary for a horse, as for the human species. But where thirty or forty are kept together in a close stable, where the air has no access but by the door, together with the sharp exhalations from the urine, perspiration of their bodies, &c. it renders the situation disagreeable, and almost intolerable. A horse in health, to remain long in such a place, would soon be enervated, and unfit for business. Stables should be situated where the air may have a draught through them; and in every horse's apartment a small window should be placed, and left open through the night, and not shut up to suffocate its inhabitants, as too frequently is the case in large towns.

I shall now speak of the principal general disorders, to which horses are subject.

General Disorders.

GLANDERS, *or* HORSE AIL.

THIS disease is justly called the glanders, being principally an affection of the glands of the head; but, from its frequent appearance, it is vulgularly called the horse ail.

You will perceive this disease by the sadness of the horse's countenance, loss of appetite, difficulty in drinking, and sudden debility. Frequently the glands under the jaws are swelled; and in an advanced stage of the disease, there will be a continual discharge of thin, ichorous matter from the nose.

The remedies are these.—Let blood freely in the horse's mouth, or by perforating his nose with a sharp awl; put him under a course of physic, by giving him brimstone, antimony and turmerick in succession, for two weeks. Let a dose be given him every day in a mess of bran. The dose of brimstone and turmerick, half an ounce each; that of antimony, one fourth of an ounce. Put a rowel in his breast, and then strive to bring the swelling under his throat to a suppuration, by applying emollient poultices and fomenting baths. When the swelling becomes soft, and the matter fluctuating, place a seton in the most depending part, to discharge the humour. Fumigate his head, twice a day, with sulphur and camphire, mixed with rye paste, dried, and burnt under his nose; likewise scraps of old lea-

ther; and occasionally blow snuff up his nose. If the discharge of matter becomes thick, white and mild, you may soon expect a cure.

FRENZY, *or* STAGGERS.

THIS disease is known by a hanging down of the head, watery eyes, and reeling of the body. From the general cause of this disease, we infer the method of cure. The excretions are diminished, consequently a costiveness, and induration of the contents of the intestines, seem to be the cause.

Cure.—The horse must be bled the first day in the neck, the third day in the mouth: give him, the first day, four quarts of herb drink, made of mallows and flax seed, to lubricate his bowels, and prepare for a dose of aloes; one ounce and a half of which is to be given him the second day to purge him: the third day bleed in the mouth as before: the fourth, give him the following nourishing decoction: take two quarts of ale; boil in it a white loaf crust, or hard biscuit; when taken from the fire, add one gill of honey, and give it to the horse lukewarm; put a plaister of pitch upon his temples: be sure to keep him in a dark stable, and let his food be given him sparingly.

YELLOWS.

THIS disease in horses is similar to the jaundice in men. It arises from obstructions formed in the biliary ducts, which prevents the bile from flowing into the stomach, and forces it to return into the circulation; which gives that yel-

low appearance in the white of the eyes and urine, and that sense of weariness to the limbs, which are observed in the animal diseased.

Cure.—Take aloes, Venetian soap, and honey, equal quantities, to be made into pills, and give half an ounce daily for a week. If this does not effect a cure, steep celandine and saffron in cider, to be given one quart a day. It is often necessary in this disease to let blood.

STRANGURY, *or* DIFFICULTY *of* STALING.

MANY causes may produce this disease, such as over fatigue, or catching cold; which brings on a stricture in the urinary vessels, and consequently an obstruction of urine. Another frequent cause is, driving the beast too long without suffering him to stop and stale.

Cure.—Take one ounce of nitre, and dissolve it in one quart of ale or beer, to be given the horse blood warm: or, a pint of juniper berries boiled in two quarts of fair water, to the consumption of one half, and give him. Half an ounce of rosin pounded and given in meal a few days will perform wonders.

FEVER.

TO judge of the state of the fever, you may examine the pulse; which you will find, in thin skinned horses, by pressing your fingers gently on the temporal artery, about an inch and a quarter backward from the upper corner of the eye; or in the inside of the leg, just above the knee. But you may be better satisfied, by putting your hand to the horse's nostrils, and judging from the heat of his breath.

Cure.—In the beginning of a fever, it is generally necessary to let blood; but in an advanced state, when the heat is great, and the discharge from the bowels diminished, or the dung hard and dry, clysters are also necessary.

For a Clyster.—Take one handful of mallows, and two spoonfuls of flax seed; boil them in milk and water: when boiled, add half a pound of sugar, and as much sweet oil, with a handful of salt: then, with the necessary apparatus, put it up the horse's body.

You must also observe a cooling regimen. Take a four pail pot and hang over your fire, full of water, and clover or honey-suckle hay: make a tea of it. When your horse is thirsty, let him drink it luke warm. Give him also, each morning and evening, a quart of this liquor, with an ounce of nitre dissolved in it. Continue this till the fever abates. Let his hay, if he will eat, be sprinkled with warm water, and his provender soaked.

Cramp, *or* Drawing *of the* Nerves.

THIS is a disease I have never read of, but have had many instances of it in my practice. The almost only cause is, taking cold after hard labour and sweating. The excretions being suddenly diminished, brings on these spasmodic and convulsive symptoms. Upon the least motion, every nerve seems contracted, to overthrow its antagonist, and, as it were, to dismember the ungovernable body. The eyes are contorted in their sockets, and they are blind, except by accident, and nothing but the white appears.

Cure.—The method I have found of uncommon efficacy, is this: Immediately take a pound and a half of blood from the jugular; then place your horse in a warm stable, and prepare to sweat him. Take a large pot, and fill it with May-weed and tansy; when boiled, place it under the horse's belly, and cover him with a large coverlet, to keep the steam confined to his body. A little previous to the bath, give him fifteen or eighteen grains of opium in half a pint of wine. Now take special care that the cold be not repeated; let him wear his covering a day or two, and carry him his water moderately warm. This method has proved salutary many times, and seems to have its reason in the nature of things.

HAVING attended briefly to the more general distempers, I shall call my readers' attention to those of a more partial or local nature, to which horses are subject. As I purpose brevity, I shall not enter into theoretical or physical disputations on the subject, but strive to discover simple truth in a simple manner.

Local Disorders.

FISTULA.

THE fistula is an ulcer of the callous kind, and, from its well known fatality to horses, is generally thought incurable. I confess there are few diseases more stubborn, yet must remark, that neglect of means, or wrong applications, have, in ten instances to one, been the cause of my ill

success. Its seat in horses is between the sadder and collar; which are commonly the source from which it arises. Bruises of any kind may produce it. From its position on the top of the withers, the matter when collected, instead of being discharged, corrodes and insinuates between the cords of the neck, from which it can hardly be eradicated. Most people apply clay mixed with vinegar, to the surface of the sore, to dry it up; which might answer well, where a good drain is opened; but here it proves a source of deception, and while you anticipate a cure, your horse is ruined.

Cure.—First, with a limber probe search the bottom of the sore; see whether it is sinuous or hollow; find its direction; whether it runs between the shoulder blades, or only on one side. When you have made sufficient search into the depth of the sore, and find it curable, you must prepare to make a drain from the bottom; and this must be done either by the knife or the rowel.

Observation.—Where the rowel will answer, never take the knife, for, by destroying the teguments, you make a large sore, cause great pain to the beast, and protract the cure. If roweling, therefore, is proposed, make one of hair, put it through the eye of a crooked needle; put your needle to the bottom of the sore, and thrust it through in a depending manner, that the discharge may be easy; stir it frequently, and wash the sore with strong lie, or soap suds, to keep it clean. If fungous flesh arises, sprinkle it with blue-stone, or red precipitate; and sometimes fill the sore with lime or ashes, which will help the diges-

tion, and cleanse the sore. If the sore is filled with a callous pipe, and appears of long standing, the knife or hot iron must be applied.

The horse being cast on an easy spot, you must, with a knife or hot iron, as most convenient, take away the callous or fungous flesh. If it should bleed profusely, melt some rosin on the sore with a hot iron, and sear the arteries. Lay a cloth upon the sore wet with spirits, and unbind your horse. If an inflammation succeeds, supple it with a hot bath, to reduce the swelling, and bring on a suppuration. Now be careful to keep it from the air, and apply your digestive, made of basilicon; and if proud or fungous flesh is seen, add to it a little verdigrise. Yet, if after all your care, the matter falls between the shoulder-blades, or upon the neck-bone, so that no drain can be made from the bottom of the sore, you had better give up the cure, and save your trouble.

Horses often have swellings upon their shoulders that are not sinuous; in such cases, bathing with hot vinegar or urine will generally make a resolution of the humour, and prevent further mischief.

SHOULDER STRAIN.

THIS lameness is brought on by overstraining the limb. There is a collection of grumous blood between the shoulder-blade and body; the small vessels being over-extended or ruptured by the strain, is the cause of that extravasated fluid, which must be re-absorbed, or drained off, before the beast will get well.

My method of Cure is this:—Take up a piece of skin on the corner of the shoulder, as large as

a ninepence, then put your fingers to the hole, and start the skin from the flesh two inches round, and blow up the shoulder. Now put in a piece of leather, cut round, with a hole in the middle, answering to that in the shoulder. This in about twelve or fifteen days will discharge the humour, and being taken out, will seldom fail of a cure.

This method has been reprobated by some, but experience has taught me to adopt it. Where the lameness is slight, I have found the following an efficacious remedy :

Take of high wines one pint, oil of spike one gill, pigs' feet oil one gill, gum camphor half an ounce, and one beast's gall. Simmer these together over a gentle fire, apply it warm to the diseased part, and heat it in with a dish of coals or hot slice, twice in a day.

Clap *in the* Back Sinews.

THIS disease is a lameness in the back sinews, between the knee and fetlock joint. It is produced by a strain, which debilitates the nerves, and therefore produces lameness. The cords of the leg will sometimes swell, which will determine the seat of the disease; if not, you may know it from a shoulder strain by the horse's stepping short, but taking his foot from the ground; whereas, in a shoulder strain, the horse will drag his toe on the ground when he walks.

Cure.—This may be easily effected, by bathing the leg in the day time with the ointment prescribed for a shoulder strain; at night apply an emollient poultice of turnips and Indian meal. Make a boot for the horse's leg, tie it at the fetlock, then fill it with your poultice, and tie it

again above the knee. This method, followed a few days, will prove an efficacious remedy.

Hide Bound.

THIS is brought on by low keeping and surfeits; the juices of the body are dissipated, the skin becomes rigid, and, as it were, adheres to the ribs.

To Cure this disorder, it will be necessary to put your horse on a more liberal diet; also every day a mash of bran or boiled rye should be given him; and twice a week give him half an ounce of brimstone in his bran.

Broken Wind.

HORSES by over riding, especially when their bellies are full of water, or clover-hay, have their wind hurt, and are called broken-winded.

The Cure is difficult. Take of tar and honey one spoonful each; liquorice ball, half the quantity; opium, eight grains; mix and dissolve them in a quart of new milk, to be given every morning fasting. Let his water be that wherein quick lime has been slacked; the proportion is a pint of lime to a pail of water.

Feed him as much as possible on arse-smart hay, which has been sprinkled with warm water.

Bots *and* Worms.

THE signs, that indicate the bots, are, uneasy motions in the horse, frequently turning his head to his sides, often lying down, or scouring of the intestines.

Cure.—Sweeten one quart of milk with honey, and give it to the horse with a horn; then

powder half an ounce of aloes, and give it directly in a strong decoction of savine boughs; if the worms have not eaten through the intestines, you may depend on a cure. Tobacco leaves, cut fine, or coarse horse hair, mixed with a horse's provender, will prevent bots and worms from collecting in the maw, and will often kill them.

GRIPES.

THIS disease hath similar symptoms with the bots. It arises from sudden colds, indurated dung, and spasms of the intestines. If you are not sure whether bots are the cause, take this method first, which will often destroy them:—

Give the horse three gills of gin, with as much sweet oil; if he is costive, give him an ounce of aloes, made into balls with castile soap and honey. If this does not work, give him a clyster, made of tobacco-leaves steeped in old urine, and sweetened with molasses; these remedies are adapted, as near as possible, to suit both disorders.

SCOURING.

THIS is brought on by drinking too much cold water, or by eating sour hay, &c.

Cure.—Give your horse two quarts of the liquor wherein garden rhubarb, flax-seed and mallows, have been boiled; or boil white-oak bark and white pine together; give him one quart of this, morning and evening, till well.

SORE BACK.

IF the skin is worn off a horse's back, and the sides of the sore are swelled, bathe it with hot urine, or with salt and water; this will disperse

the swelling. If you wish to dry up the sore, powder chalk, or old shoes burnt, and cover the sore with it. If his back is full of hard lumps, or what are commonly called saddle boils, bleed him freely in the mouth, which will serve as a dose of physic; then wash his back often with hot rum and vinegar.

BLEEDING.

THIS is a resource which unskilful men fly to on every failure of their horse, without considering the nature of the disease, or state of the horse's body.

Proper Subjects for Bleeding.—HORSES that are affected with any inflammatory disorder, whether general or topical, as fevers, inflamed sores, or any hot humour, are proper subjects for bleeding. Horses that are fat and plethoric, require more frequent bleeding than those of the opposite state; but observe not to deprive them of the vital fluid beyond necessity; rather bleed often, and but little at a time. Horses that are poor have no fluid to spare: rather recruit them by a generous diet, and rest.

Unskilful grooms, when they bleed in the jugular, often cut through the vein; whence an extravasation of the blood, and no small danger to the horse.

Among many other instances, the Hon. BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, Esq. sent me a horse in this condition. I ordered his servant to apply the simple remedy of cold water, liberally, and in a few days he was cured.

Pricked or Gravelled Hoofs.

HORSES are sometimes pricked in shoeing; which causes the foot to fester, and the horse to be lame. Extract the nail, and fill up the hole with the horse ointment, to be mentioned by and by. Sometimes gravel will get into the nail hole, or into cracks in the hoof. Unless this is soon extracted it will remain long in the hoof, and spoil the horse's usefulness. Many, by cutting the hoof to get out the gravel, make the remedy worse than the disease. If you cannot find the gravel with a little cutting, make a poultice of turnips, and put the horse's foot into it; repeat this a few days, and the gravel will generally work out.

If you omit this remedy too long, the horse will not be cured till the gravel works out at the top of the hoof.

The Horse Ointment.—Take yellow rosin, beeswax and honey, like quantities; hog's lard and turpentine, double their quantity; melt them all together over a gentle fire, and keep a continual stirring: when they are well compounded, take it from the fire, and stir in a little verdigrise.

This is an excellent ointment for sores, burns, bruises, chapped heels, &c.

Spavins.

THERE are *three* sorts of spavins. *First*, the bone spavin; it is a bony excrescence, formed on the joint, which impedes the motion of the joint, and is seldom curable.

Secondly, the wind spavin; it commonly comes in the horse's ham.

Prick the swelling with a fleam, but take special care not to injure the nervous cords, for this will often bring on the lockjaw. Upon opening the swelling, you will often find a gelatinous humour to issue from it. Now apply your turnip poultice for a few days, to suck out the humour; then strengthen the part, by bathing it with good brandy.

Thirdly, the blood spavin. The coats of the vein being ruptured, the blood extravasates, and forms a protuberance in the vein.

Take up the vein with a crooked needle, and tie it above the swelling; then let blood below it, and apply cow-dung, fried in goose grease and vinegar, by way of poultice.

Splents.

SPLENTS are of the same nature with spavins, but not upon the joints. They are bony excrescences, of an oblong figure, coming between the fetlock joint and knee, or gambrel; while they are growing, they make the horse lame, but when they are formed, unless they press upon the cords of the leg, they are of very little damage.

Cure.—Shave the part, and put on a smart blistering plaister, to be kept on three days; chafe the part strongly with the tincture of flies; and once a day rub in opodeldoc, with one quarter part oil of turpentine. This will generally effect a cure, if curable.

Wind-galls.

THESE appear upon the fetlocks, and are the consequence of hard riding. They are full of wind or jelly; they seldom lame a horse, and

may be cured in the same manner that wind spavins are.

Ring-bone.

THIS is a long callosity, just above the hoof, which if long neglected, the hoof will become narrow, and twist, and often prove incurable.

Cure.—Make a boot for the horse's foot, tie it at the top of the hoof, then take oyster-shell lime newly burned, and fill the boot against the ring-bone with the lime; place the horse's foot in a tub of water, or in a pond of standing water; repeat this five days; after this, poultice the foot for five days more, with a turnip poultice and linseed oil, observing to chafe the part before you apply the poultice. Lastly, apply a plaister of pitch to the ringbone, to be worn two or three weeks. This method hath succeeded with the greater part I have tried. Those who use stone lime, may expect a fire that they cannot extinguish, for by doing this, many have ruined their horses.

Sore Eyes.

IF the eyes are much inflamed, let blood in the neck; then boil the bark of bass wood root with rose leaves, and sweeten the decoction with loaf sugar. Wash the horse's eyes three times a day with this water, and keep him in a dark stable. If films grow over the eye, dissolve ten grains of white vitriol, and as much rocheallum, in a gill of spring water, dip a feather into it, and touch the eye a few days with it, and it will eat away the film.

Scratches.

HORSES are troubled with these most frequently in the spring, while the roads are muddy, which obstructs the perspiration of the parts, together with the snow-water, which is very unfavourable in this disorder.

Cure.—Cut the hair off close, and wash the legs with strong soap suds or urine; put on a turnip poultice (as this is the best I know of for horses) a few days, mixed with hog's fat and linseed oil. It will soon effect the cure.

Filing *the* Teeth.

WHEN horses are old, their fore-teeth grow long, while their jaw-teeth wear short; this prevents them from grinding their hay; and by that means they grow poor, and die before their natural vigour is exhausted. To remedy this inconvenience, and prolong a serviceable life, provide a gag to put in your horse's mouth, then a coarse file: having gagged your horse, file his fore-teeth so short that his grinders may touch, and break the hardest hay.

This is an easy and sure method of making old horses eat their hay equal to young ones, provided their jaw-teeth are sound.

Stifle.

THE stifle joint is above the inside bend of the hough or gambrel; its use is much the same as the knee pan in man.

If the stifle is only strained, bathe it with the ointment prescribed for strains in the hip; which will soon cure it. If it is dislocated, or out of

place, make a stifle shoe, in form of a cone: let a common shoe be the base; then let three pieces of iron, one from the toe, the other two from the sides of the shoe, meet in a point three inches from the base. Put this upon the well foot, that the horse may stand upon the lame one four or five days; that will keep the joint in place—and in the mean time bathe the part with the ointment above mentioned. The stifle shoe is preferable to strapping the well leg, for strapping hinders the circulation, brings off the hair, and often lames the well leg.

Strains *in the* Hip.

HORSES are frequently lame in the hip; this is occasioned by the ligament, which holds the thigh bone in the socket, being overstretched.

To effect a cure, the horse must have but little exercise, and the joint should be bathed three times a day, with three parts of brandy, and one of oil of spike, to be heated in by a chafing-dish of coals; this will contract and strengthen the ligament, and if a recent lameness, will prove a certain remedy.

Hipped *and* Half-hipped.

WHEN the bones of the hip fall so low that a horse is said to be hipped, the animal becomes useless; but when he is only half-hipped, or hip-shot, the part may be strengthened, and, though disfigured, he may perform much labour.

Cure.—Take white-oak bark, elm and white-pine bark; roots, Solomon-seal, buck-horn and comfrey; boil them all together, and frequently bathe the hip with it; this in a little time will strengthen the hip, and fit the horse for business.

HOOF-BOUND.

WHEN hoofs are hard, dry, and withal contracted at the top so as to pinch upon the quick, and prevent a free circulation, horses are said to be hoof-bound. To prevent this, keep the hoofs cool and moist; to cure it, take a fleam lancet, and open the hoof at the edge of the hair, to give it liberty of spreading. Then grease it daily with woodchuck, skunk or dog's grease, that it may grow.

A few DIRECTIONS *for choosing a* HORSE.

THERE is much pleasure and profit in the service of a good horse, but very little of either in a bad one. There are many mean horses that make a good appearance when taken from the hands of a jockey. In purchasing a horse, then, trust not too much to the seller's word; let your own judgment, or that of a friend, be chiefly relied on. See that he hath good feet and joints, and that he stands well on his legs. See that his fore-teeth shut even; for many horses have their under jaw the shortest; these will grow poor at grass. See that his hair is short and fine, for this denotes a good horse. Observe his eyes, that they are clear and free from blemishes; that he is not moon-eyed or white eyed; for such are apt to start in the night. A large, hazel coloured eye is the best.

Look at his knees; see that the hair or skin is not broken, for this denotes a stumbler. Take care that his wind is good: for a trial of this, let him be fed on good hay for twenty-four hours, take him then to water, and let him drink his fill, placing him with his head the lowest; if then he

will breathe free, there is no danger. See that his countenance is bright and cheerful; this is an excellent mirror to discover his goodness in. If his nostrils are broad, it is a sign that he is well winded; narrow nostrils the contrary.

See that his spirits are good, but that he is gentle and easily governed; not inclined to start. In travelling, mind that he lifts his feet neither too high nor too low; that he does not interfere or overreach, and that he carries his hind legs the widest. See that he is well ribbed back, and not high boned. The size may be determined by the purchaser. Age, from five to ten is the best. There are many tricks practised by jockies, to make horses appear young, but it is not consistent with the size of my book to detect them; all I would say is, that horses' teeth when young, are wide, white and even; the inside of their mouths are fleshy, and their lips hard and firm. On the contrary, the mouth of an old horse is lean above and below; the lips are soft, and easily turned up; their teeth grow longer, narrower, and of a yellow colour.

Remarks on Travelling.

ACCORDING to my promise, I shall give my readers a few directions relative to travelling horses. If you are to take a long journey, you must prepare your horse by good feeding and gentle exercise. A horse that is exhausted with hard labour, advanced in age, or very young, will not bear the fatigues of a long journey. Neither will a very fat horse, or one who has lived without exercise, be a fit subject for travelling. A horse, therefore, rather meagre than fat, used

to active exercise, whose flesh is firm from good living and labour, is the most likely to answer your expectation. Some days before your journey, have him shod, lest, being pricked with a nail, he fail you on the road. Look well to his saddle, and see that it sits with ease, and does not hurt his back; and while upon the road, examine it daily, and repair it as needed.

Before your horse eats in the morning, give him a little water, that he may eat the better; but do not lead him to the trough or brook till you take him out for riding; the water now taken into the stomach, will better dilute the food, and, by washing his mouth, prevent any sudden thirst on the road. Ride moderately while your horse's belly is full, for he will mend his pace as this fulness goes off.

Before you make a stage, restrain your horse, and take him in cool; let him eat a little hay before he is watered, if hot; and thus conduct at all your stages. At night, after your horse is cooled, wash his legs with water (warm water is best) for it promotes perspiration, cleanses away the sand, and prevents his legs from swelling. His back should likewise be washed, to prevent those little saddle boils which the friction of the saddle often produces. In the middle of the day, I should prefer a baiting of hay to any grain; but let it be sprinkled in warm weather with water. New oats are not good for a horse on a journey; they make him faint, and often bring on a diarrhœa. If old oats cannot be had (as is sometimes the case at harvest) feed him with Indian meal, or oatmeal. Horses on a journey, from their increased perspiration, and

constant feeding on dry meat, are apt to be costive; to prevent this, give them occasionally a mash of bran or boiled rye.

If your horse discovers an inclination to stale on the road, let him stop for that purpose; and if the discharge is difficult, give him an ounce of nitre a few nights in his provender. A horse hath not the faculty of speech, but subjects himself to his master, to whom he complains under every indisposition. Will not then reason, interest, and pity, prompt us to adopt the most approved methods for their welfare?

PART II.

Of the DISEASES *of* NEAT CATTLE.

CATTLE are subject to many diseases, at all seasons of the year, but more especially in the spring; which I shall endeavour in a brief manner to give an account of.

FEVER.

WHEN a fever takes place, the beast loses his appetite, the nose becomes dry, and the horns cold, the eyes appear dull, and the countenance fallen.

In the beginning of the disease, one quart of blood should be taken from the jugular; but if the fever is far advanced, and a trembling or twitching of the muscles has taken place, to bleed would be dangerous, and often fatal. Boil fever bush

and angelica, like quantities; give the beast one gallon at a time twice a day, also one gill of sweet oil per day. The above dose is for an ox or cow; for smaller cattle it must be in proportion.

MURRAIN.

THIS disorder comes under the nether jaw. The chaps swell, and upon search you find them full of a watery humour. This disease commonly happens to cattle that are thin of flesh.

Cure.—In the first place put a rowel through the most depending part of the swelling, to be stirred frequently; then give the beast the following singular, but efficacious remedy.

Take half a pint of hen's dung and dissolve in one quart of old urine, and cause the beast to drink it. This, if applied seasonably, will never fail of a cure.

For a COUGH, *or* SHORTNESS *of* BREATH.

GIVE the beast to drink, divers mornings successively, one spoonful of tar, and as much honey, dissolved in a quart of new milk, with one head of garlick, bruised, and put in with it.

WIND COLIC.

THIS is discovered by the beast being very uneasy, lying down and getting up often, and frequently swelling very much.

Cure.—Take a quart of warm water, and half a pint of gin, sweetened well with molasses; then put in half a pint of pounded mustard seed, pour it down, drive the beast about, and it will move the wind.

For the SCAB *or* SCURF.

TAKE soft soap and tar, and anoint the place, and it will soon cure it.

For PISSING BLOOD.

TAKE milk and bring it to a curd with rennet, mix it with ash leaves and nettle seeds chopped fine, and made into balls, to be put down the beast's throat.

BLADDERS.

THIS disease happens under the tongue, being a number of small bladders, full of a watery humour; the beast breathes with difficulty, and slavers at the mouth.

Cure.—The saline, watery humour must be let out with an incision knife, or the bladders may be broken with your fingers. Then give the beast water to drink wherein bay salt and bay leaves have been concocted.

TAINT *or* GARGET.

THIS is a hot humour that mostly affects cows' bags, but sometimes their limbs, and other cattle also.

Cure.—If the humour affects the cow's bag, the first thing to be done is, to take two pounds of blood from the neck, then put in a piece of garget root in the double skin between the fore legs, with a hair rowel below that; when the humour subsides, take the garget and rowel out, and wash the bag three or four times a day with cold brine. If the swelling increases, scarify the skin, and wash it with the brine of salt and urine.

If the garget affects the limbs, after bleeding you must make a tea of horse-radish root, mustard seed and sage; give the beast two quarts at a time, daily, till well.

BLAINS.

THIS is a stoppage of the body, attended with a fever. It hath all the symptoms of fever, such as dry nose, cold horns, &c. The body swells, and the animal makes constant efforts to dung, but discharges little.

Cure.—Take away one quart of blood; then let some person, skilled in the business, put his hand into the creature's body, after it is well greased, and take away the indurated dung; then such things as are physical must be given. First take one quart of chamber-lie, half a pint of molasses, with as much hog's lard, let them be simmered together; then add a spoonful of gunpowder pounded; let it be put down the creature's throat with a horn. If the fever is not high, hiera picra is a good medicine, and the herb thoroughwort, made into a strong tea, will often effect a cure.

For any POISONOUS THING *eaten.*

TAKE milk, sallad oil, and London treacle; mix them together, and give them warm.

To kill WORMS.

TAKE savine, cut it fine and make it into balls, with fresh butter, to be put down the creature's throat. Or give half an ounce of powdered aloes in a quart of savine tea.

Horn Ail.

THIS disease is seated in the horns of cattle; the inside becomes carious, putrefies, and is discharged from the nose. The beast that is taken with this disorder will frequently shake his head, and appear to be dizzy. If you would be sure of this disease, take a nail gimblet and perforate the horn: if it is hollow, and no blood follows, it is the horn ail.

Cure.—Bore each horn into the hollow part, then inject into it strong vinegar and camphorated spirits; this will cleanse the horn, and generally effect a cure.

Overflowing *of the* Gall.

THIS distemper is similar to the jaundice in men, or the yellows in horses. The beasts grow suddenly weak, eat but little, often have a cough, and their eyes and urine turn yellow.

Cure.—Any thing bitter is good. Cherry-tree bark, barberry bark, or celandine, steeped in cider, will generally effect a cure.

Looseness *of the* Teeth.

Cure.—Rub them well with fine salt, and it will fasten them.

Barbs *in the* Mouth.

THESE are little white protuberances growing on the inside of the cheeks. In their natural state they are about one third of an inch long, but when they grow to such a length as to get between the teeth, and turn blue, the beast will not eat, but grows poor, and slavers at the mouth.

Cure.—Cut the barbs with a pair of scissors, and rub them with fine salt, which will soon cure them.

To stop VOMITING.

BOIL tansy and mint together; give one quart of this to the beast. If it does not stop in an hour, give the same quantity again, and repeat it till stopped.

LOSS *of the* CUD.

WHEN cattle lose the cud, they will not masticate their food the second time, as they usually do; neither will they eat with an appetite.

Cure.—The quickest and best method is, to take half the cud from another creature, and put it warm into the mouth of that which hath lost it. This remedy is infallible.

To cure WENS.

WENS, except those that are sitfasts, are easily cured. When they appear to be ripe, put a hair rowel through the middle of them, and put on, daily, soft soap.

BROKEN HORNS.

CATTLE, by many accidents, may have their horns broken, and, unless proper methods are taken with them, they either lose their horns, or have them grow in a very unnatural manner.

Cure.—If they are not broken so as to come off from the pith, or even if they are, I have often cured them, by replacing them quickly, and making use of the following method.—Take a piece of wood and put across the horns to keep

them their usual width; then put another piece in the middle of the former, to rest upon the forehead, bringing the horns into their natural position; lastly, prepare a bandage two or three yards long, and four inches wide, to be dipped in pitch, while warm; when this is cold, it will keep the horn very firm, and being left on for three or four weeks, it will get perfectly well.

Broken Legs.

THE farther a leg is broken from the joint, the better. Fractures in the hip are seldom cured.

Cure.—Take Solomon-seal root, buck horn and comfrey roots, each a handful, to be boiled in tar for a knitting plaister, to be placed next the leg; then splinter it in the proper place, and with a narrow bandage bind it up: let it remain till it is well. It is sometimes necessary to sling the beast, that he may not misplace the leg by standing.

Tapping.

WHEN cattle are swelled very much, it is often necessary to reduce them by tapping. Take a sharp knife, gage it about an inch, and pierce the belly of the beast just below the short ribs (always on the left side); then either keep the knife in and press it sideways, or put in a quill, that the wind may extricate itself.

Falling Down *of the* Matrice *or* Reed.

COWS, just before or after calving, if they are weak, and suffered to lie with their hinder parts the lowest, sometimes have their reed protruded

or inverted. When this has happened, and the part is swelled or torn (for hens will peck and tear it to pieces, if they are suffered to) wash it with warm milk and water, to cleanse it of the filth and dirt; then boil a strong decoction of white oak, or some astringent bark, and bathe the part till it is contracted so as to be replaced in the body. Give the cow half a pint of brandy, with a nutmeg grated in it, as a cordial; prepare her bedding so that her hinder parts may lie the highest, and ring her up with three strong wire rings.

Calving.

COWS sometimes need assistance to bring forth their young; if they have strength, the situation of the calf may make it difficult, if not impossible. Naturally a calf present its fore feet and head first; but if this is the case, and the head of the calf is fallen below the bones, the hand must be introduced into the body, to push the calf back, and withal raise his head above the bones; then he may be taken away with ease. If the calf should be inverted, and present his tail first, the hand should be put into the cow's body, and the calf turned, if possible. If that cannot be done, you may endeavour to bring it away by the hind legs, which may be done many times with ease. The cow should stand, if she hath strength, which will greatly facilitate the delivery. The secundine or cleansing should be taken away directly after the calf, for if suffered to remain long in the body, it is attended with many bad consequences.

Perforating Cows' Dugs.

IT sometimes happens that cows, when they calve, have their dugs knotted, and the passage through them becomes impervious; and they consequently give no milk.

To remedy this inconvenience, make a small skewer of walnut or whalebone, and force it up the middle of the dug; take it out daily, and anoint it with goose grease. Do thus till it heals round the skewer. I have been successful in many attempts of this kind, and would recommend it as the best method, in cases of this sort.

Scouring *in* Calves.

YOUNG calves are subject to a looseness, or scouring.

Cure.—Take a pint of new milk, and put two spoonfuls of rennet into it; to be put immediately down the calf's stomach. This, forming a curd in the stomach, will prevent the flux.

Overheating.

I HAVE frequently seen cattle, especially oxen, that, from too much fatigue in hot weather, were what some call melted, or overheated. This brings on such a relaxed state of the solids, that nature will seldom restore them to their primitive tone. The circulation being impeded (which always succeeds overheating) consequently the perspiration is diminished and retained, and the beast remains an inactive drone for life.

Cure.—Give the beast directly one quart of gin, or, for want of that, West-India rum: this, acting as a stimulus, will strengthen the solids,

quicken the fluids, promote all the secretions, and very generally effect a cure.

TAIL-SICKNESS.

CATTLE in the spring season, more especially young ones, are what is commonly called tail-sick. The end of the tail for some inches becomes loose and spongy, and the creature loses its appetite, and becomes sick. The simple remedy is, to cut off the tail above the loose part, and it will make a cure.

BLEEDING.

THE best time to bleed is the spring of the year, and increase of the moon. Old cattle require oftener bleeding than young ones: but the quantity should be less. Cattle you intend to fat, should be bled three or four months successively, in the first part of the year, in the increase of the moon, and but little at a time. In all other cases you must bleed as the exigencies of the case require, and as mentioned in the various diseases.

PART III.

Of SHEEP.

A SHEEP is perhaps one of the most useful animals of our country; their annual fleeces being manufactured at home, or in our now flourishing woollen-manufactories, afford us a neat and comfortable apparel; their flesh a wholesome food for our tables.

Sheep are of a hot nature, and require to be kept cool: they should not be housed, except in rainy weather. Ewes, before they lamb, should have corn, beans, or turnips, every day, which will enable them to bring forth their young with vigour. After they have lambed, a few potatoes every day will make a flow of milk; if they should bring on a looseness, give them corn instead of potatoes. In the summer, change their pasture. This treatment will be very favourable to the growth of the lambs.

Sheep should be sheared the moon increasing; their wool will be longer and better. Some shear their lambs in August, affirming that the succeeding fleece is not the less for it. Sheep should be washed in the spring with a decoction of tobacco; this will kill the ticks, and prevent their rubbing the wool off.

I shall now enumerate some of the maladies to which sheep are subject.

PLAGUE.

WASH the sheep in alum and salt water, and give them to drink a decoction of rue and balm leaves.

To cure POISON.

WHEN snow falls before you have taken up your sheep, they often, through force of hunger, eat winter-green, which will make them froth at the mouth, and swell, and in a little time die.

Cure.—Take a gill of sweet oil, or for want of that, hog's-fat or fresh butter; mix it with a pint of new milk, to be given to the sheep; if it is taken seasonably it will effect a cure.

Loss *of the* Cud.

TAKE the cud from another sheep and divide it betwixt the two; or mix clay in urine with the powder of alum, make it up in little balls, and put one or two down the sheep's throat, and after it half a pint of vinegar.

For the Scab *or* Itch.

ANOINT the part affected with tar and fresh butter mixed together, or wash the sheep in penny-royal water, and it wil preserve them from the scab.

Fever.

DISSOLVE half an ounce of nitre in water and vinegar, and give it to the sheep lukewarm.

To kill Maggots.

MIX tar and goose grease, equal quantities, and stir in flour of sulphur, as much as to make it of a proper consistence; anoint the place with the ointment, and it will kill them.

For a Cough.

TAKE colts-foot, lung-wort and maiden-hair, boil them to a strong tea, sweeten it with honey, and give it the sheep to drink.

For the Staggers.

DISSOLVE asafœtida in warm water, and put half a spoonful in each ear of the sheep. It is a speedy remedy.

To preserve from the ROT.

TAKE the salt that is gathered from the marshes in summer, or, for want of that, salt and alum; rub the mouth of the sheep with this once a week, and it will preserve them from the rot.

PART IV.

Of SWINE.

THE diseases of hogs are difficult to cure; therefore to prevent them should be an object of our attention.

Keep them well if you can, but not so as to burden them with fat in hot weather; keep their bodies open, and there will be little danger of their being sick. Brimstone, in small doses, is excellent for hogs; antimony is also good; but if you can get neither, urine, put in their swill, will answer a good purpose. It is necessary to keep a hog's issues open; but I shall make some remarks upon this elsewhere. The practice of feeding store hogs three times a day, is not good; whereas if they are fed only morning and night, they keep their appetite, eat their food clean, and grow the faster.

I shall now say a few things on the diseases of hogs.

For the MEASLES.

RUB them all over with a stiff brush, dipped in cold water; then boil parsley-roots and rue in salt water, and give it them to drink.

For a FEVER.

LET them blood in the tail, and give them thrice a day, water wherein pepper and parsnip-roots have been boiled.

For the SWINE POX.

TAKE an ounce of nitre, pound it, and dissolve it in a pint of cider; add to it half a pint of sweet oil and one spoonful of honey, to be given to the hog lukewarm.

For a CATARH.

TAKE two ounces of coriander seed, one of ginger, three of honey, and half an ounce of turmeric; let it be powdered fine, and boiled in three quarts of new milk, then let the hog drink it.

Of DRENCHES.

IT is a practice among people in general, when their hogs are sick, to put a rope in their mouths and hang them up for drenching. This is a very bad practice; for while you are pouring your medicine down, the hog will squeak, and ten to one the liquid goes down the wind-pipe and chokes him. If you can give your hog his medicine in milk, or some other liquid that he will drink, it is well; if not, do not force it down in the manner of drenching, but give it to him in the form of a clyster: This is always safe, and as effectual as any method whatever.

Of ISSUES.

THE issues in a hog are places on the inside of their legs which are porous, like a pepper-box

top. Here, it seems, is the most immediate outlet for the superfluous fluid of the body. When these get stopped (as hogs are fond of filth and mire) the hog loses his appetite, and becomes sick. Then to drenching and choking, as before hinted; whereas, if his issues were rubbed and picked open, he would immediately recover.

THUS I have endeavoured in the preceding sheets, with much brevity and plainness, to treat upon those maladies which have fallen more immediately under my inspection. I would not be thought a plagiary. I have made practical experience my guide, without regard to studied theories: I have not, however, discarded the sentiments of any man, when they agreed with my own; and if they may be in any measure serviceable to my readers, I shall never regret my trouble in writing them.

FINIS.

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To cure ringbones
take one once of oil of spike
one once oil of vitreal &
one once oil of amber. mix
them together & oint the ring
bone six days succesevly
then bind on a plaster of
beeswaks & tallah

A cure for the heavs in
horses. take sweet flag
root pulverize it and
give it in oats

Cure for thistaloes &
pole eavles on hoses
take ast smart boil it
town strong in warter
then strane the licker
and cos used mix vinager
and fine salt - then
wash the part affected
two or three times a day &
bath it well

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